

CHURCH FINANCE'S	
Last Sunday's Attendance	57
Last Sunday's Offering	\$4,270
Difference to Weekly Budgeted Offering	\$1,866
Offering YTD	\$116,622
Difference to Offering YTD	\$1,230

\* **Sermon Notes** - Available in the Narthex

\* **Listening devices are available upon request**

- \* **Church Directory** - The church directory is available by request from the church office.
- \* **Interested in becoming a church member?** Please talk to Pastor Joseph
- \* **WE WANT TO PRAY FOR YOU:** If you have an immediate prayer need and would like us to pray for you, please fill out the pew card and place it in the offering plate. Be as thorough as possible so we can most effectively pray for you.
- \* **No Kids Own Worship today. Children will return to their families after the children's message.**
- \* **Join us for lunch and Carols after worship downstairs in Kirk Hall.**

Contact Us at Mansfield 1st (EPC)  
**Phone:** 419-756-7066 **Email:** office@mansfield1st.com

**Elders**

Dana Constance, Ben Troyer,  
 Judy Swartzmiller, Sally Wyatt

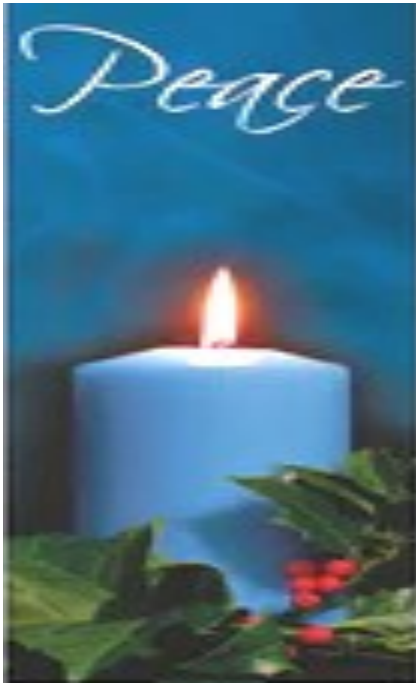
**Deacons**

Margaret Baker, Dee Engle,  
 Pat McGinty, Vivian Stevens,  
 Leslie Lancy



# Mansfield 1st Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 3, 2023  
 2nd Sunday of Advent  
**Ladies of Advent:**  
**Rahab, Lady of Peace**  
 Joshua 2:1-24, 6:17-25  
 Matthew 1:1-16



Rev. Joseph Yerger, Pastor

*A Sanctuary of Worship*  
*A School of Religious Education*  
*A Church Home with Open Doors*



# Welcome to Mansfield 1st EPC!

Order of Worship – December 3rd, 2023

*Please take a moment to fill out pew pads*



**Call To Worship:** (Psalms 85:1-4)

Pastor Joseph

**\*Hymn of Praise:**

Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding

(see insert)

**\*Prayer of Adoration:**

Ben Troyer

**Call to Confession:** (Psalms 85:5-7)

Ben Troyer

**Corporate Prayer of Confession:**

(ALL)

God of hope, Father of peace, let us see and receive Your steadfast love. Grant us assurance of Your merciful salvation. Restore us to wholeness. Remove conflict from the midst of our hearts. Unite us and make us one, together in You and Your Son Jesus. Help us to refrain from our sinful divisiveness and work together for peace and unity in You, with all of Your Church. Forgive us our sins and grant us Your peace. Establish us once again into a right relationship with You as: Creator and His creation, benevolent King and His obedient people, loving Father and His loving children. Fill us with faith in You. Build up our hope in Jesus Christ. Let us always rest in Your peace that surpasses all of our present understanding. **AMEN**

**Silent Prayers & Confessions:**

Ben Troyer

**Assurance of Pardon:** (Psalms 85:8-13)

Pastor Joseph

*\*Please stand as you are able*

## Sunday School

## Visitors Are Welcome!

- Pastor Joseph teaches adult Sunday School at 9:00 am in the Library. We are studying the Gospel of Mark. Coffee is provided.

- We have classes for children age 3-Kindergarten (Begin with Jesus), Kindergarten -2nd grade (Show me Jesus), for grades 3rd-6th (Closer to Jesus), and for 7th-12th grade (Grow with Jesus). Each class begins at 9 am on Sunday mornings.

**Joy in the Morning** - Meets every other Tuesday, at 9:30 am in Westminster. Next Meets December 5th

**Prime Time** - Meets every other Wednesday. This study is for all adults, beginning at 4pm with a dinner following. **On Hiatus until 2024**

**Spirit Seekers** - at 4pm. Meets every other Sunday at 4pm with dinner afterwards. This Study for those in their 20's-40's is divided into 'Parents' & Youth. **On Hiatus until January 2024**

**Kids O' the Kirk** - The youth companion group to Spirit Seekers. **On Hiatus until January 2024**

# PRAYER REQUEST

Peace and comfort for the family of Palestinian Christians  
James Squire Richard Jerusalem and all those in harms way

Cindy Hessin, at Primrose Retirement Community, cards & visits welcome For everyone else not listed, but also  
Students & Families of Tusky Valley in need of prayer  
Eurobrass **YMCA Stronger Through Prayer:**  
**11/23**

EduNations and its students Peace for Marilyn & Healing for  
Families & children of the Sudan Dean, heart surgery on December 7

Our Congregation

Pastor Joseph & Jodie

Shawn Wade & Our Preschool

For Our City, Our Nation & Civic Leaders (for wisdom, grace, peace)

Reverend El Akuchie, Mansfield City Councilman, 3rd Ward

Mayor Theaker

Mayor Elect Jodie Perry

First Responders (Police, Fire, EMS)

All Christians being persecuted around the globe

For Revival in our city, state & county

**\*Song of Response:** #813 Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)

**Advent Reading:** Troyer Family

**Offertory:** Angie Hunter  
"Sing We Now of Christmas", arr. by Mark Hayes

**Prayers for God's People - Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)**  
Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. **AMEN**

**\*Song of Response:** #815 Doxology

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving:** Pastor Joseph

**Hymn of Preparation:** #251 It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

**Children's Message:** *Kids come down to the left-side steps*

**Children are released for Kid's Own Worship**

## **The Word of God\*\***

**The Scripture Reading:** Joshua 2:1-24, 6:17-25; Matthew 1:1-16

**Sermon:** Ladies of Advent: Rahab, Lady of Peace

*\*Please stand as you are able*

*\*\* Found on page 169 & 783 in the red pew Bible.*

**Celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper**

*Please hold the elements until everyone has been served, then we will partake together.*

\*\*\* Gluten free wafers are available in the small dish on plate

**\*Affirmation of Faith:** (ALL)  
(The Nicene Creed)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. **Amen**

**\*Sending Song:** #273 Good Christian Men, Rejoice

**Benediction** Pastor Joseph

*\*Please stand as you are able*



<b><u>Prayers of Thanksgiving and Praise</u></b>	Healing for Auggie
<b>The LORD is Sovereign over ALL THINGS</b>	Erna & Frank Becker
Lucille Bridgeman	Maxine Smith
Our American Freedoms	Don Harding
Our Freedom to worship the LORD	Sally and Bill Wyatt
<b><u>Prayers of Petition</u></b>	Ms. Vivian Stevens
Healing for Martha Ball	Sid & Nancy Hall
Healing for Pat Olsen	Stefen Francis
Healing for Nancy Richey	Patsey Himes
Healing for Dan Davis	Charlene Reed
Healing for Betty Albers	Hazel Bigner & family
Healing for Beverly Urschel	Jon & Dorothy Powell, Home Hospice
Healing for Joseph James	Maureen Doherty
Healing for Meg Wyatt O’Rourk	Mark Doherty
Healing for Martha Montague	Brett & Rachel Lloyd
Healing for Nik Stevens	James Willis
Healing for Edda Braun	<b>Over——&gt;</b>
Healing for classmate of Sonya’s	
Healing for Jan Gibbs	
Healing for David Doerr	

## This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



Sunday, December 3rd	9 am	Sunday School
	10 am	Family Worship Service
	11:20 am	Coffee Hour
Wednesday, December 6th	12 pm	Staff Meeting
Thursday, December 7th	10 am	Prayer Meeting
Saturday, December 9th	Salvation Army Bell Ringing at Hobby Lobby	
Sunday, December 10th	9 am	Sunday School
	10 am	Worship Service
	11:20 am	Coffee Hour

A golden bell with a red ribbon bow.

▶ **Don't forget! We are ringing bells for the Salvation Army at Hobby Lobby December 9 & 16. Sign up for a 1 hour time slot is the Narthex.**



## Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding



**The Butterfly** symbolizes the resurrection and life everlasting for the believer.



**The Seven Flames** is a symbol of the coming of the Holy Spirit



**The Shell with Drop of Water** represents Baptism



**The Lamp** stands for Wisdom and Knowledge.



## Chrismon's

Chrismons, meaning "Christ monograms," traditionally are white and gold designs made from Christian symbols that signify Christ. Often displayed on an evergreen tree during the Christmas season, symbols such as stars, crosses, fish, crowns, and the alpha and omega remind us of Christ's identity, his story, and of the Holy Trinity.

Chrismons were first developed in 1957 by Frances Spencer and the women of the Ascension Lutheran Church in Danville, VA.

The **Alpha and Omega** stands for Christ who says "I am the beginning and the end, the first and the last".



The **Creator's Star** represents the six days of creation. It is also called the Star of David and is a symbol of Zionism.



The **Crown** symbolizes the kingship of Christ and His victory over sin and death. It also symbolizes the reward of the faithful



# Thank you **EVERYONE** who helped make yesterday's "Ye Young Gift Shoppe" a success!





## Ruins of Jericho's wall



The ruins on the left are domestic structures (residences) which were incorporated into a casement wall (part of the inner wall is visible on the right) constructed during the Middle Bronze Age III (1650-1550 BC).

A person dwelling within a residence inside the wall of the city was an ordinary practice in the ancient Near East, maximizing the economy of space. During times of anticipated siege, it was a common practice for these structures to be filled in so as to increase the overall strength of the wall.

Out of view, beneath the vantage point of the photographer, was an older tower fortification which could have been maintained into that period and continued to be utilized in the city's defense.



Presuming the older date for the Exodus (~1440 BC), it is reasonable to presume that what is pictured here may well have been part of the fabled Jericho walls that "...came a tumblin' down...", or at least would have been representative of those walls' construction. Therefore, this evidence fits the Biblical description of Rahab assisting the Israelite spies to escape from Jericho at the beginning of the Canaanite conquest. *"Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was built into the city wall, so that she lived in the wall."* (Jos. 2:15 ESV)